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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3241
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7006
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 0002
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 5227
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2778
RUEHPS/AMEMBASSY PRISTINA 0018
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RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 0156
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE VIENNA 0035
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6857
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 7869
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 002373

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL PGOV GG RU IN
SUBJECT: INDIA NOT TAKING SIDES ON RUSSIA - GEORGIA

REF: A. A. SECSTATE 090978
     ¶B. B. SECSTATE 90980 C. SECSTATE 091894

Poloff delivered reftel demarches regarding Russian
recognition of Abkhazia and South Ossetia and rebutting
Russian claims regarding the ceasefire agreement to Ministry
of External Affairs Director (Eurasia) Sandeep Arya on August
¶26.  In follow-up conversations  on September 4, Arya
informed Poloff that the GOI still has not made any official
statement regarding Russia's recognition of Abkhazia and
South Ossetia, and that no policy decision has been made
regarding the issue. He added that the GOI does not "practice
recognition on the basis of internal self-determination," and
said that this situation is "the same as Kosovo, which we
have never recognized."  Pressed on whether the GOI would
encourage Russia to respect ceasefire restrictions on its
forces in Georgia, Arya reiterated that the GOI has no
position on the matter.  He further stated that there has
been no interaction at official levels in Delhi between the
GOI and Russia regarding South Ossetia/Abhkazia since August
¶7.  Arya hinted that there could be an official visit between
India and Russia in October (NFI), suggesting that such a
meeting could be the venue for India to formally discuss its
position with Moscow.
MULFORD
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